

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: )  
)  
Filing Date: )  
)  
Applicant(s): Viktor Zoubek )  
Vaclav Sasek )  
)  
Group Art Unit: )  
)  
Title: Fixing Element )  
)  
Attorney Docket: 47623-0006 )

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A are submitted for consideration by the Examiner in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The full consideration of the references in their entirety by the Examiner is respectfully requested and encouraged. Also, it is respectfully requested that the references be entered into the record of the present application and that the Examiner place his or her initials in the appropriate area on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A, thereby indicating the Examiner's consideration of each of the references.

The submission of the references listed on the Form PTO/SB/08A is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references listed thereon are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application.

Further, the submission of the references is not to be taken as a concession that any reference represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved.

In re Application of Viktor Zoubek et al.  
Attorney Docket: 47623-0006

The Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

- ☒ (a) within three months of the filing date of the patent application, (b) within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 of the international application, or (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
- ☐ **after** (a), (b), or (c) above, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution of the application, and is accompanied by one of:
  - ☐ the Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (see "Certification" below).
  - ☐ the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).
- ☐ **after** the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution but is filed on or before payment of the issue fee, and includes the Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (see "Certification" below), and the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

#### **Copies Of The References**

- ☒ Copies of the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A are enclosed herewith. Attached to each reference not in the English language is a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).
- ☒ A copy of the foreign search report is enclosed herewith.
- ☐ The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A were previously identified in the parent application(s) of the present application, and copies of the references were furnished at that time. Accordingly, additional copies of the references are not submitted herewith, so as not to burden the file with duplicate copies of references. The Examiner is respectfully requested to carefully review the references in accordance with the requirements set out in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), the details of the parent application(s) relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120 in which copies of the references were previously furnished are set out below:

In re Application of Viktor Zoubek et al.  
Attorney Docket: 47623-0006

U.S. APPLICATIONS		Status ( <i>check one</i> )		
U.S. APPLICATIONS	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
1. 0 /				
2. 0 /				
3. 0 /				

- ☒ This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form-1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. If the International Search Report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g))

#### Other Applications

- ☐ The Examiner's attention is directed to the following U.S. patent application(s):

U.S. APPLICATIONS		Status ( <i>check one</i> )		
U.S. APPLICATIONS	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
1. 0 /				
2. 0 /				

#### Certification

- ☐ The **undersigned attorney** hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ The **undersigned attorney** hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application or, to the knowledge of the attorney signing after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

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**Petition**

- ☐ The undersigned attorney hereby petitions the Commissioner to consider this Information Disclosure Statement and the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

**Fees**

- ☒ No fee is owed by the applicant(s).  
☐ Fee enclosed.

**Authorization To Charge Additional Fees**

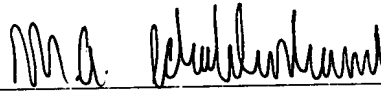
- ☒ If any additional fees are owed in connection with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1061.

Respectfully submitted,

DICKINSON WRIGHT PLLC

Date: March 23, 2005

By: \_\_\_\_\_



Michael A. Schaldenbrand  
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Enclosures

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**Complete if Known**

## Application Number

**THE**

TBA

Viktor Zoubek

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47623-0006

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Examiner  
Initials\*Cite  
No.<sup>1</sup>

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

 $\tau^2$ 

International Search Report; Dated December 19, 2003; 2 pages

Examiner  
Signature

Date

[illegible]

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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